

Vital Events

Registration of Kansas vital events (live births, deaths, fetal deaths, marriages, and marriage dissolutions) decreased 1.4 percent from 95,480 in 1989 to 94,134 in 1999. Table 1 Figure 2

Between 1989 and 1999, the most significant changes in vital events were a 45.2 percent increase in the out-of-wedlock birth ratio and a 24.5 percent decrease in the marriage dissolution rate. Table 1

The number of out-of-wedlock births to Kansas residents reached a record high in 1999 at 11,068. This represented 28.6 percent of all Kansas resident births, which is the highest proportion ever reported. Table 1

The live birth rate in 1999 (14.6) decreased 5.2 percent from the 1989 rate of 15.4. The death rate increased 4.5 percent, from 8.8 in 1989 to 9.2 in 1999. The marriage rate decreased 10.2 percent, from 8.8 in 1989 to 7.9 in 1999. Table 1 Figure 3

The birth rate (14.6) for Kansas residents in 1999 stayed the same for the second year after six consecutive years of decrease to 14.2 in 1996, the lowest on record (dating from 1935). Table 1 Figure 3

Fetal, perinatal, and infant death rates decreased from 1989 to 1999, with percentage decreases of 27.4, 11.3, and 17.0, respectively. Hebdomadal and neonatal death rates rose by 13.9 and 6.5 percent, respectively. Table 1 Figure 3

In 1999, the number of couples married in Kansas increased slightly after six years of decline. The number of marriage dissolutions (divorces and annulments) granted in the state declined, as it has since 1991. Table 1

Over half (10,577) of the marriages in 1999 were first marriages for both the bride and groom. Figure 2